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WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963

BY -

DR. HUGH MORRISON

M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

AND

B. R. JAMES

M.R.S.H.



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WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1963

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WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

1963.

I. GENERAL

Area (in acres)	37,911
Estimate of Residential Population mid year 1963 ...	8,270
Census Population (Preliminary Report 1961)	8,110
Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Books	
on 31st December 1963	2,749
Rateable Value, 31st December 1963	£160,691.
Sum represented by a ld. Rate, 31st December 1963 ...	£644.14. 1.

II. EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR, 1963

With reference to the figures which follow, it should be pointed out that the standardisation of the rate of births and deaths allows for the differing ages and sex distribution of the populations in different areas and is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a comparability factor for the district furnished by the Registrar General. This enables comparison to be made with the figures for the country as a whole, or with those for other districts.

1. Births

(a) Live Births.

	M	F	Total	Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.
Legitimate	59	60	119	15.2
Illegitimate	3	4	7	

Totals	<u>62</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>126</u>
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Standardised Birth Rate, Wellington R.D.	17.32
Birth Rate, England and Wales	18.2

(b) Still Births	Total	...	...	...	5.
------------------	-------	-----	-----	-----	----

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births -	
Wellington R.D.	38.1
England and Wales... ..	17.3

Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population -	
Wellington R.D.	0.6

2. Deaths

(a) Total Deaths	114
Crude Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	13.7
Standardised Death Rate, Wellington R.D. ...	12.64
Death Rate for England and Wales... ..	12.2

(b) Maternal Mortality

Total maternal deaths from all causes	0
--	---

(c) Infant mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age -	Total	1
Deaths among legitimate infants		0
Deaths among illegitimate infants... ..		0
Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
Wellington R.D.		7.6
England and Wales		20.9

(d) Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

Total 22

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1963

	M.	F.	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection.....	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus.....	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	5	6	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
Diabetes.....	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	7	13	20
Coronary disease, angina.....	11	12	23
Hypertension with heart disease.....	2	-	2
Other heart disease.....	5	12	17
Other circulatory disease.....	2	2	4
Influenza.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	1	5	6
Bronchitis.....	4	1	5
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	3	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
Nephritis and neprosis.....	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital malformation.....	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	2	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	-	1
All other accidents.....	-	1	1
Suicide.....	-	1	1
Homicide and operations of war.....	-	1	1
All causes - Total	45	69	114

INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1963

There was one death in infants up to the age of one year as shown in the following table, which gave a rate per 1,000 births of 7.6

Age	Cause of Death
1 week	Collapse of Lung

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

DOMICILIARY SERVICES:

(1) Medical & Nursing - There are five general medical practitioners living and carrying on practice in the rural district. Practitioners from Wellington and from the neighbouring districts also cover some of the territory. There are adequate arrangements when required, for domiciliary consultation with consultants serving the Taunton and West Somerset area and, speaking generally, the practice of medicine in the district is of a high standard. The provisions for domiciliary nursing are satisfactory and excellent work has been done by the Home Help Service administered by the Somerset County Council..

(2) Home Help Service - This service, administered by the Somerset County Council, is now well established in the district and invaluable assistance is given in many cases of illness and the domestic difficulties arising therefrom. There is no doubt that this is one of the most useful of all public services. I am indebted to the County Organiser for the following analysis of cases where help was arranged in the Wellington Rural District during 1963.

Mental Illness	1
Accidents and temporary illness	2
Maternity	4
Old age	32
Chronic Sick	10
Post-operative	4
Post and Pre-Natal	5
Care of children	4

HOSPITAL SERVICES:

The Hospital Services of the District are administered by the Taunton Hospital Management Committee, under the general direction of the S. W. Region Hospital Board. A detailed re-appraisal of these services is going on at the present time following on the production by the Government of a comprehensive Hospital Plan for the nation. Some of the provisions for the needs of various types of patients are detailed below:-

(1) General Medical and Surgical

The Taunton and Somerset Hospital, together with Musgrove Park Hospital which is also situated in the Borough of Taunton and which is probably eventually destined to supercede the first-named establishment, cater for most medical and surgical conditions. Musgrove Park Hospital takes most of the adult cases and also has a comprehensive Paediatric Department. The Taunton and Somerset Hospital is in the meantime dealing with Orthopaedics and Ophthalmology. It also houses the Casualty Department for the area. Both Hospitals have out-patient facilities in addition to in-patients beds. Certain cases requiring special investigation or treatment such as neurosurgery or radiotherapy are referred to Bristol Hospital for this purpose.

Wellington Cottage Hospital provides valuable facilities for local cases which do not require to be sent to larger institutions and complete consultant cover is available for the work carried out there.

(2) Chronic Sick

Since the appointment of a Geriatrician to the West Somerset Clinical Area, arrangements for hospital treatment for the chronic sick have been put on a more satisfactory basis. Most of these cases are admitted to Trinity Hospital in Taunton. There continues to be a very great pressure on accommodation of this type and this is a branch of medical care which will undoubtedly make increasing demands on medical and ancillary services as the years go on.

There were no cases during the year in which compulsory removal to a Hospital or other Institution had to be carried out under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948. From time to time the circumstances of certain old people in the district must be reviewed with this procedure in mind but in each of these cases satisfactory arrangements for the time being were able to be made.

(3) Infectious Diseases

Cases of infectious diseases from Wellington Rural District are sent to the Taunton Isolation Hospital situated in the Borough of Taunton. The bulk of the Isolation Hospital work is done in cubicle blocks. The pattern of infectious diseases requiring admission to hospital is constantly changing. Many of the patients admitted suffer from vague pyrexial illnesses in which the diagnosis is in doubt. Scarlet Fever which used to provide a large proportion of the admissions is, at the present time, a relatively mild disease and most of the cases are nursed at home. Measles and Whooping Cough still demand hospital treatment in the occasional case where there are severe complications or where home nursing is impracticable. Diphtheria has not been seen in the district for many years. Poliomyelitis is being brought under control by inoculation and in the past few years there has not been a severe epidemic in this part of the Country. Many cases are, however, admitted to hospital on suspicion of suffering from poliomyelitis and these often provide difficult diagnostic problems. The extensive use of antibiotics has resulted in the appearance of severe infections due to certain bacteria which were formerly regarded as fairly harmless and this leads to the admission of cases of this kind to the Isolation Hospital. Thus, although the types of illnesses dealt with change over the years, the total number of cases requiring isolation treatment has rather tended to increase than to diminish.

Tuberculosis Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis come under the Regional Hospital Board for treatment which is supervised by the Chest Physicians for the area. The Sanatoria are at Wincanton and Taunton for Pulmonary cases. Cases requiring Orthopaedic treatment are becoming very uncommon but when they do occur, arrangements for treatment are made according to the individual need.

Poliomyelitis Suspected cases are sent for diagnosis to the Taunton Isolation Hospital. If the condition is confirmed they are seen by Regional Specialists who arrange for continuation treatment whether as out-patients or as in-patients at Bath Orthopaedic Hospital.

(4) Mentally Sick

Cases are admitted to the Mental Hospital at Tone Vale, Nr. Taunton. The psychiatric specialists conduct out-patients clinics for the area and it is felt that now, more than ever before, mental patients are having the benefit of treatment at an earlier and more hopeful stage of the disease.

Mentally defective cases are well provided for at Sandhill Park Hospital which is situated in Taunton Rural District.

The new Mental Health Act is certain to result in great changes in the management of the mentally sick and the mentally handicapped in this as in all other districts of the Country. Speaking very generally, the emphasis will be on care and treatment of these cases as members of the general community rather than as hospital patients whenever this can, with safety, be carried out.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

Tuberculosis :

Clinics for patients suffering from this disease and for the supervision of suspects and contacts are held by the Chest Physicians at Musgrove Park Hospital. There is an After-Care Committee working in co-operation with these clinics. Mass radiography has been carried out from time to time on various groups of the County population, by a team working from a centre in Bristol but this service has not been called upon to deal with residents in Wellington Rural District.

Venereal Disease :

A combined Clinic and Treatment Centre is carried on at the Taunton and Somerset Hospital which caters for male and female patients of this and surrounding districts.

Early cases of syphilis are usually sent to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, for a fortnight's intensive penicillin treatment as in-patients. Afterwards they continue to have observation and treatment at the Taunton Clinic. These conditions which had for some years become rather uncommon in the district have been latterly showing a marked increase in prevalence and this is in accordance with experience over the Country as a whole.

Maternity and Child Welfare :

The Maternity and Child Welfare Acts are administered by the County Council under whose supervision are also the Health Visitors and Midwives practising within the area. There is an excellent Maternity Home in the Urban District of Wellington to which a considerable number of women from the Rural District are admitted for confinement. Obstetric Consultants in Taunton are available for consultation with Medical Practitioners in the District. Abnormal and complicated cases can be admitted for hospital treatment when necessary. Every case of Puerperal Pyrexia and Maternal Mortality is investigated by the Medical staff of the County Council.

A valuable service is now provided for premature infants. Small or premature babies unsuitable for nursing at home are admitted to a Special Care Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital, an ambulance equipped with an Oxygenaire incubator being sent to collect them from their homes. If the baby is deemed fit to be nursed at home, the district midwife can obtain advice and special equipment to help her with the management of the case.

Laboratory Facilities :

The Public Health Laboratory Service has a Laboratory in Taunton at which all the usual specimens connected with Public Health work, such as throat and nose swabs, blood, faeces and sputum are examined. The Staff of the Laboratory also give very useful assistance in the investigation of epidemic outbreaks. Chemical Analyses are carried out as requested at the Laboratory of the County Analyst in Taunton.

Ambulance Facilities :

Ambulance transport for all cases is the responsibility of the Somerset County Council. A central ambulance department has been set up which arranges for vehicles to be provided as required.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of notifications received for Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

DISEASES	<u>Total</u>	<u>1st Year of life</u>	<u>1-2</u>	<u>3-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>15-24</u>	<u>25 & over</u>	<u>Age unknown</u>
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	77	6	12	16	39	4	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

The following table shows some of the notification rates for Wellington Rural District compared with those for last year.

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>Notification Rates for Wellington R.D.</u>	
	1963	1962
Scarlet Fever	0.12	0.0
Measles	9.3	16.6
Puerperal Pyrexia	7.6	0.0

The above figures are calculated Rates per 1,000 civilian population, except with Puerperal Pyrexia in which the rate is furnished by the number of cases per 1,000 total live and still births.

TUBERCULOSIS

Particulars of new cases and number of deaths from Tuberculosis are shown in the following table:-

Age Periods	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

At the end of the year the Tuberculosis Registers contained the names and addresses of 17 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 5 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The immunisation campaign against diphtheria has been an outstanding success in this district and in the country as a whole; but it remains essential that all young children should be given the benefit of this protection and there is some evidence that without constant stress on this fact, the number of children being immunised each year might easily fall to a dangerously low level.

Total "Primaries" under 5 years...	...	...	117
Total "Primaries" 5 - 14 years ...	...	...	-
Total Re-inforcements	...	...	79

Whooping Cough Immunisation

It is customary on the County of Somerset to combine immunisation against whooping cough with the course used to protect against diphtheria and this is also a most valuable public health measure, since whooping cough is now probably the most serious of the common infectious diseases affecting young children.

20 babies under one year of age were immunised against whooping cough. This is 16% of the total annual live births.

Tetanus Immunisation

Immunisation against tetanus is now regarded as a very important protective procedure. The disease is not common but when it does strike the consequences can be devastating and life is always endangered. There are some indications that tetanus may occur more frequently in the West Country than in many other areas of Great Britain. It is perhaps not generally realised that the disease may follow the most trivial injury and that in a fair proportion of cases there may be no obvious injury at all preceding the attack, although the bacteria must then be presumed to have entered the body through some minute abrasion.

It has been customary for many years to give anti-tetanus serum to patients presenting wounds of various sorts, especially those which are deeply penetrating or contaminated with soil; but it is now usual to combine this with injections of anti-tetanus toxoid which gives a much longer lasting immunity. This is the substance used in the routine immunisation of children and the number of injections required is three. They are given in conjunction with the diphtheria and whooping cough courses. All patients are strongly urged to ensure that their children are given this valuable protection.

Number of children immunised :-

							<u>Primaries</u>	<u>Re-inforcing</u>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	-
1 - 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	1
6 - 10 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	63
11 - 16 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	11

Poliomyelitis Immunisation

Poliomyelitis Immunisation, which formally involved injections, is now carried out by giving the material by mouth. During 1963 the following persons received a course of primary vaccination or oral doses.

Children born in 1963	...	...	...	...	6
Children born 1943 - 1962	...	...	...	...	91
Young persons born 1933 - 1942	...	...	...	...	8
Persons under 40 years and priority groups...					13
TOTAL					<u>118</u>

In addition 4 persons, comprising all groups, received their third (re-inforcement) injection.

2 children between 5 - 12 years received a 4th re-inforcing injection.
33 children between 5 and 12 years received a dose of oral after 3 injections.

Smallpox Vaccination

The aim in future will be to vaccinate children routinely in the second year of life.

Wellington Rural

				<u>Primary Vaccination</u>		<u>Re-vaccination</u>	
				<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Under 1 year...	...	...	...	93	20	--	--
1 year	...	...	...	17	15	2	--
2 - 4 years	...	...	...	37	3	12	--
5 - 14 years	...	...	...	131	5	145	3
15 and over	...	...	...	206	9	403	13
TOTALS:				<u>484</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>16</u>

B.C.G. Immunisation against T.B.

Immunisation against Tuberculosis by the use of B.C.G. vaccine is offered to susceptible children at the age of thirteen.

39 children attending school in the rural district were given the Heaf Test and 37 given B.C.G. Vaccination.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The administration and control of water supplies in the district has now passed to the West Somerset Water Board, of whose area Wellington Rural District forms one portion. In future reports it will probably be necessary to give statistics covering the wider area served by the Board.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

There are adequate arrangements for water-carriage of sewage in Wiveliscombe, Milverton, Oake, West Buckland Village, Ham, Nynhead and Langford Budville. Holywell Lake, in the parish of Wellington Without, has sewers but disposal is not entirely satisfactory. Other parishes with unsatisfactory sewers and disposal works are Bradford-on-Tone, Fitzhead and Sampford Arundel. The remainder of the district is dependent on septic tanks and pail closets. Public Health and amenity demand improved sewerage provisions and this need grows particularly urgent when main water supplies become widely distributed.

Public Cleansing

Household refuse is collected weekly from Wiveliscombe and Milverton and fortnightly from the rest of the district and is disposed of by tipping.

Housing

Building of Council houses continued, as detailed in the Public Health Inspector's report. Rehousing from unfit properties has now been largely dealt with but there are still a substantial number of applicants on the waiting list. Cases in which medical factors appear to be involved are enquired into and reported upon by the Public Health Staff and consideration is given to this aspect when allocations are made.

Applications for both types of Improvement Grant continue to be received by the Council and attempts have been made to obtain improvements in groups of adjacent houses, with success in some cases. During the year nine Discretionary and four Standard Grant were made.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Schemes commenced or completed during the year

Water Supply:

On April 1st 1963 all the public supplies were taken over by the West Somerset Water Board.

The main was extended from Ford Street to Voormoor in the Parish of Wellington Without.

At Chipstable the new bore (sunk in 1962) was brought into use replacing the unsatisfactory shallow well.

Council Housing:

Three houses and three bungalows were built at "Swifts", Langford Budville and four bungalows were commenced at each of the following:-

Ashbottle.
Sampford Arundel.
Holywell Lake (Wellington Without)

Sewerage:

Sewers were relaid in North Street, Milverton.

WATER SUPPLY

Public supplies are now available in all parishes in the district except:-

Poole (Parish of West Buckland) which has a private piped supply, and certain outlying parts of the following parishes:-

Ashbottle
Bathealton
Chipstable
Stawley
Thorne St. Margaret
Wellington Without
Wiveliscombe

Further extensions for Wrangway (Wellington Without) and Whitefield (Wiveliscombe Without) are planned.

The public supply for the district is now linked with the Taunton supply except the supplies to Chipstable and Waterrow villages and Sampford Moor supply.

PIPED SUPPLIES

RAW WATER

TREATED WATER

BACTERIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

BACTERIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
22	28	1	-	19	4	1	-

None of the supplies are known to have plumbo-solvent action.

WELL WATER:

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

BACTERIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

BACTERIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL

15	-	18	-
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WATER SUPPLIES FROM PUBLIC MAINS

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number of houses supplied direct to houses</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Number of houses supplied by stand- pipes</u>	<u>Population</u>
ASHERITTLE	34	103	-	-
BATHEALTON	14	36	2	7
BRADFORD-on-TONE	173	584	-	-
CHIPSTABLE	34	101	-	-
FITZHEAD	68	210	-	-
LANGFORD BUDVILLE	91	282	-	-
MILVERTON	475	1420	-	-
NYNEHEAD	66	201	-	-
OAKE	161	400	-	-
SAMPFORD ARUNDEL	98	303	-	-
STAWLEY	50	155	-	-
THORNE ST. MARGARET	16	50	-	-
WELLINGTON WITHOUT	72	210	-	-
WEST BUCKLAND	241	721	-	-
WIVELISCOMBE	441	1325	-	-
WIVELISCOMBE WITHOUT	167	512	-	-
	2201	6613	2	7

The following Summary shows in alphabetical order, the present water supplies in the District by Parishes, giving their acreage and numbers of dwellings.

ASHBRITTON: 2,158 acres 60 dwellings

The village and immediate surroundings are served by the S.W. Parishes Supply. Outlying properties have private springs and wells.

BATHEALTON: 2,598 acres 59 dwellings

Supplied by N. & C. Parishes Supply, outlying properties have wells and springs.

BRADFORD: 1,814 acres 186 dwellings

Piped supply through Parish from Taunton Corporation mains.

CHIPSTABLE: 3,455 acres 89 dwellings

Chipstable Village

Water from a new borehole constructed during 1962, supplies the village. This supply is satisfactory and adequate.

Waterrow Village

Spring supply laid on to most of the properties in the village. The water is chlorinated. Remainder of parish - wells and springs.

FITZHEAD: 1,247 acres 70 dwellings

Piped supply from Taunton mains. All but two houses are supplied from this main.

LANGFORD BUDVILLE: 2,234 acres 120 dwellings

Piped supply (S.W. Parishes) to the village.

Wellisford, Bindon and Runnington are supplied by the N. & C. Parishes Scheme.

MILVERTON: 3,465 acres 499 dwellings

Piped supply from the N. & C. Parishes supply. The Olands bore is retained in case of emergency.

NYNEHEAD: 1,706 acres 87 dwellings

Piped supply from the N. & C. Parishes supply.

OAKE: 1,754 acres 180 dwellings

Mains (extended from the Taunton Corporation Supply) serve most of the Parish and only a few houses remain to be connected to the supply.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL: 1,216 acres 113 dwellings

Sampfard Arundel, Sampford Moor and Whiteball are served by the S.W. Parishes Supply. The old Sampford Moor supply is retained to serve four properties.

STAWLEY: 2,663 acres 84 dwellings

Tracebridge, Appley and Greenham are served by the S.W. Parishes Supply. Apply and Kittisford are served by the N. & C. Parishes Supply; the remainder by wells and springs.

THORNE ST. MARGARET: 824 acres 28 dwellings

The village is now supplied from the S.W. Parishes Scheme. The remainder is supplied by springs and wells.

WELLINGTON WITHOUT: 2,933 acres 159 dwellings

Holywell Lake is supplied from the S.W. Parishes Scheme. Ford Street is served by an extension from the Taunton main. An extension to serve the Ford Street to Voxmoor area was carried out during the year. A further extension for supplying Wrangway is planned.

WEST BUCKLAND: 3,739 acres 288 dwellings

West Buckland is supplied from the Taunton Borough mains, except :-

Poole which is served by a small private piped supply.

WIVELISCOMBE: 201 acres 441 dwellings

Piped supply from the N. & C. Parishes Scheme. The borehole is retained for use in an emergency.

WIVELISCOMBE WITHOUT: 5,904 acres 286 dwellings

Langley, Langley Marsh, Maundown, Ford and Croford are served by the N. & C. Parishes Scheme.

The Nunnington Park area has private wells and springs, the majority being unsatisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

BRADFORD-ON-TONE - A Scheme has been submitted to the Ministry.

FITZHEAD - A Scheme has been prepared.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL - A Scheme is being prepared.

The existing Sewerage and Sewage Disposal of the district is as follows:-

ASHBRITTLE:- 2,158 acres 60 dwellings

Septic tank for four Council houses.

A sewer in the centre of the village taking waste water only. Some properties have septic tanks but others have pail closets, with waste water drainage to ditches etc. The compact nature of the village renders a sewerage scheme very desirable.

BATHEALTON:- 2,598 acres 59 dwellings

A few privately owned septic tanks.

Others have slop water drains to ditches etc. and pail closets.

Three new Council houses have a septic tank and filter.

BRADFORD:- 1,814 acres 186 dwellings

Most properties in the centre of the village drain by a sewer to Gigleys Pit near the roadside leading to Hele. This gives rise to serious nuisances.

Drainage from Three Bridges area causes nuisance and pollution.

Eight Council houses drain to a septic tank and filter.

Complaints of pollution by the effluent of these works have been received.

Four new Council houses and two other houses drain to disposal works at Regent Green.

Properties at Heatherton are sewered to septic tanks.

Certain other properties have private septic tanks.

The need for a complete sewerage scheme is extremely urgent.

CHIPSTABLE:- 3,455 acres 89 dwellings

There is a small sewer taking waste water only in the centre of the village.

Various other properties have septic tanks, including four Council houses at Waterrow and four at Chipstable Village.

Some properties at Waterrow drain to the river but little nuisance is experienced on account of heavy dilution with river water.

FITZHEAD:- 1,247 acres 70 dwellings

Sewers serving most of the village are unsatisfactory and there are no proper disposal works. Complaints of nuisance arise from time to time and the need for proper sewerage and disposal is urgent. Council houses have separate disposal works; one at Church Road has been reconstructed.

LANGFORD BUDVILLE:- 2,234 acres 120 dwellings

Most properties in the village are now connected to the main sewerage system.

A sewer at Runnington taking waste water discharges into a ditch and there is a need for proper sewers and disposal works.

MILVERTON:- 3,465 acres 499 dwellings

The disposal works consist of primary and secondary settlement tanks and bacteria beds. Sewers in the North Street area have been relaid. Sewers also serve Preston Bowyer.

NYNEHEAD:- 1,706 acres 87 dwellings

Higher and Lower Nynehead are served by new sewers and disposal works. Most properties are now connected.

East Nynehead - Most properties have septic tanks.

OAKE:- 1,754 acres 180 dwellings

Oake Village is served by sewers and sewage disposal works. The disposal works are over-loaded and need to be enlarged.

Properties at Hillcommon and Hillfarrance drain to septic tanks etc.

Serious drainage difficulties have arisen at Hillfarrance and the need for a sewerage scheme has become urgent.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL:- 1,216 acres 113 dwellings

There are small sewers serving properties at Sampford Moor, Sampford Village and Beam Bridge. Nuisances are created by the discharge of sewage into ditches and a complete sewerage scheme is required.

12 Council houses drain to a septic tanks and filters. A sewerage scheme is being prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers.

STAWLEY:- 2,663 acres 84 dwellings

Certain houses have septic tanks but most houses have pail closets and slop-water drainage to ditches.

Stawley school and four new Council houses at Appley drain to septic tank and filter.

THORNE-ST-MARGARET:- 824 acres 28 dwellings

Private tanks to some houses.

Remainder have pail closets.

WELLINGTON WITHOUT:- 2,933 acres 159 dwellings

There is a sewer with temporary disposal works at Holywell Lake.

Certain other properties have septic tanks and others have pail closets with waste water drainage to soakaways etc. The Council's Consulting Engineers are preparing a scheme for disposal works and extension of sewers at Holywell Lake.

WEST BUCKLAND:-

3,739 acres

288 dwellings

The village is served by new sewers and disposal works and most of the houses are connected. Owing to extensive development the disposal works need to be enlarged.

About 30 houses at Ham drain to tanks and filter; other sewers exist at Hockaller, Willowbrook and Chelston.

Drainage difficulties exist at Sawyers Hill.

Certain other properties have pail closets.

WIVELISCOMBE:-

201 acres

441 dwellings

All properties drain to sewers. Some of the sewers discharging into the Style Works have been re-laid.

The sewers leading to the Hillsmoor Works admit a great deal of sub-soil water causing the disposal plant to be over-worked.

WIVELISCOMBE WITHOUT:-

5,904 acres

286 dwellings

Most of the properties at Langley and Langley Marsh are connected to the sewer.

Four Council houses at Croford and certain other properties drain to septic tanks.

Other houses have pail closets.

DRAINAGE

The practice of disposal of septic tank and cesspool contents on agricultural land continues, but due to the co-operation of the contractors and the farmers concerned, fewer complaints of nuisance have been received.

The preliminary treatment of the drainage from a poultry killing and packing factory has been satisfactorily carried out by screening and settlement tanks. Three samples of the effluent which discharges into the public sewer were analysed giving the following results:-

Solids in Suspension	B.O.D.
104	420
180	400
170	250

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collections are made as follows:-

Weekly: Wiveliscombe and Milverton.

Fortnightly: Remainder of the district (except certain remote properties)

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Milverton Tip. There are intermittent cases of rat and fly infestation.

Refuse is collected by direct labour using a covered vehicle.

There appears to have been an increase in the number of covered bins in use, but there are still too many unsatisfactory receptacles.

SCHOOLS

All the schools in the district are supplied with water from the mains.

Drainage is connected to public sewers in all cases except at Sampford Arundel and Stawley where it discharges into disposal works serving Council houses.

SWIMMING BATH

The only public swimming bath in the district is at Wiveliscombe. It is fed by spring water of fairly reliable bacteriological quality.

There is no apparatus for recirculation, filtering and chlorinating the water, chlorination being carried out by hand. Bacteriological and residual chlorine tests are made regularly during the season.

Results of the bacteriological tests are given in another part of the Report.

HIGHWAY LAYBYS

The sanitary condition of the laybys on the trunk roads continue to deteriorate and there is an urgent need for suitable sanitary accommodation in these cases where the laybye are convenient for overnight parking.

In all these places faecae and other decaying matter can be found, providing definite health hazards for anyone using the sites, particularly when meals are taken.

Representations to the Member of Parliament, the Ministries concerned and other bodies appear to have no effect.

Rodent infestations are kept to a minimum by regular inspections and treatments when necessary

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

The following are details of inspections made during the year:-

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(I) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	49	-	-
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	24	33	-	-
(III) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	38	82	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.5)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Number and nature of Inspections during the year 1963:-

(a) Dwellinghouses.....	1179
(b) Food Premises.....	205
(c) Factories, Workshops and Warehouses.....	83
(d) Water Supplies.....	180
(e) Drainage.....	332
(f) Moveable Dwellings.....	56
(g) Swimming Bath.....	35
(h) Miscellaneous.....	88
	2158

Number of Notices served during the year:-

Informal Notices.....	63
Statutory Notices.....	12

Result of Service of Notices:-

Total Notices complied with.....	70
Notices standing over at the end of 1963.....	5

Camping Sites - Licences in force authorising the use of a site for moveable dwellings.....	1
- Licences issued by the Council authorising the use of moveable dwellings.....	20

Smoke Abatement - Complaints of nuisance dealt with and abatement secured	NIL
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Wiveliscombe Swimming Bath

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination....	16
No. of samples found to be satisfactory.....	16
No. of samples found to be slightly unsatisfactory.....	-
No. of samples found to be unsatisfactory.....	-

Offensive Trades - Number of offensive trades in the District within the meaning of Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1936.....	NIL
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Water - Samples of piped supplies examined during the year..	75
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Bakehouses - Number of inspections of the three Bakehouses in the District.....	8
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All the bakehouses draw their water supply from public mains.

Food

1. Number of food premises in the area..... 80
2. Number of food premises registered under Section 14 -
 - For sale of Ice Cream..... 32
 - For preparation of other food..... 5
3. Number of inspections of registered food premises..... 60
 - No Ice Cream is made in the area. Sales are of pre-packed ice cream in every case.
4. Clean food guilds, etc. are impracticable owing to the scattered nature of the district.
5. Condemned foods are disposed of by incineration, except meat which is stained and released for manufacturing purposes.
6. No special examination of a stock or consignment of food has been necessary.

Food Hygiene Regulations

Inspections have continued during the year and the general standard of food premises has improved. A number of small improvements have been obtained.

Meat

There are two Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district and one of these is in regular use. Regular inspections are carried out. Details of inspections and condemnations are as follows:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	325	15	21	907	249
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	1	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	7	2	-	4	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.15	13.33	4.76	0.55	1.20
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.00
<u>Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.)</u>					
for:-					
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	48
(b) Other	170	134	35	84	153
Total (in lbs.) condemned	170	134	35	84	201

All condemned meat is stained or sterilised in accordance with the Ministry's recommendation.

Slaughterhouses

There are two slaughterhouses, used by three retail butchers in the district. The appointed day under the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) and (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations was January 1st, 1962, and the necessary alterations to comply with the regulations have been completed.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks - No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the district during the year under review.

Tuberculosis Order 1925

Cows slaughtered during the year under this order NIL

Rodent Control

A part-time operator is employed. During the year the sewers, sewage disposal works and refuse dumps were treated systematically. Private dwellinghouses and business premises were also treated following complaints or where infestations were found by the operator.

The sewer treatments have resulted in decreased infestations. Re-infestation occurs particularly where the sewers are defective.

Attention has been paid to highway lay-byes and surrounding land which are the cause of complaints of infestation as well as of nuisances.

Following is a schedule of the inspections and treatments carried out during the year.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Agri-cultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
I Number of properties in Local Authority's District	35	2749	390	3174	320
II Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	-	25	3	28	5
(b) Survey under the Act	35	19	12	66	93
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	4	4	-

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural			(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises		
I. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections.	105	88	19	212	120
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major)	-	-	-	-	1
(Minor)	26	21	3	50	24
(b) Mice (Major)	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor)	-	7	1	8	2
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A.	26	28	2	56	11
VI. Total treatments carried out - including re-treatments.	29	28	2	59	11
II. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act,	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	2				

River Pollution

This is evident at Bradford and Fitshead where the need for proper sewage disposal is very urgent.

HOUSING

Overcrowding - One house was recorded as legally overcrowded at the end of the year.

One house condemned before the war was still occupied at the end of the year.

Three bungalows and three houses were completed during the year. Twelve bungalows were under construction at the end of the year.

(1)	The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	8
(2)	The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	40
(3)	The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders	8
(4)	The number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works	2
(5)	The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	4
(6)	The number of demolition or closing orders made ...	6
(7)	The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (4) of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	2
(8)	The number of houses demolished	1

Council Houses

The following table shows the parishes in which the Council have erected houses under the various Acts :-

Parish	Address	No. of Houses	Total for Parish	Total No. of Occupants
Ashbottle	Rectory Road	4	4	16
Bathealton	Avis Cottages	3	3	12
Bradford-on-Tone	Regents Green	4	12	40
	Tone Green	8		
Chipstable	Miltons	4	8	30
	Bouchers, Waterrow	4		
Fitzhead	Church Road	8	14	53
	Hills Cottages	6		
Langford Budville	Reynolds	6	15	48
	Swifts	9		
Milverton	Lower Fairfield	8	136	440
	Fairfield Terrace	8		
	Newfield	4		
	Courtfield	40		
	Houndsmoor	4		
	Doltons	2		
	Torrells, Hillcommon	4		
	Ashford Close	8		
	Creedwell Orchard	58		
	Farthings Close	16		
Nynehead	Bridge Cottages	4	41	141
	Oake Close	37		
Sampford Arundel	Breach Hill	4	12	45
	Weekes Meadow	8		
Stawley	Appley Cross	4	4	12
Wellington Without	Lake Cottages,	4	4	18
	Holywell Lake			
West Buckland	Sawyers Hill	4	60	229
	Holway Cottages	4		
	Budgetts Cross	8		
	Castle Cottages, Ham	26		
	Crown Hill	10		
	Frogs Lane Cottages	8		
	Northgate	53		
Wiveliscombe	Plain Pond (partly in Wiveliscombe Without)	72	179	618
	Southgate	28		
	Stockers Close	16		
	Style Road	10		
	Croford	4		
	Langley Cross	14		
Wiveliscombe Without	Langley Marsh	4	22	87
TOTAL			530	1837

Council tenants are responsible for the internal maintenance of their houses. The number of unsatisfactorily maintained houses in 1963 was 25.

Langford Budville Common - Byelaws under the Commons Act 1899 are in force.

One caravan was removed from the Common in accordance with the provisions of the Byelaws.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order -

The Council are now responsible for the enforcement of this order, under which four persons are licensed. The premises have been inspected for compliance with the order and for the detection of rodent infestation and have been found to be reasonably satisfactory.

